

134
3 OCT 1948
C.E. 70

LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH



Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(C. B. LANYON, M.D., Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)

AND

Sanitary Inspector

(A. HEY, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st December, 1945.

BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH



Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(C. B. LANYON, M.D., Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)

AND

Sanitary Inspector

(A. HEY, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st December, 1945.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1945-1946

THE MAYOR OF FALMOUTH (COUNCILLOR E. E. HOWARD).

Chairman: ALDERMAN W. A. LAMB.

ALDERMEN A. NAPIER.

H. A. RIDER.

K. H. WILLIAMS.

COUNCILLORS W. J. BARNICOAT.

T. CAMPBELL.

W. E. CAVILL.

T. H. ELKINGTON.

E. W. HEARLEY.

H. B. NATION.

A. E. OSBERG.

G. L. ROBINS.

E. SMITH.

G. THOMPSON.

T. C. WILLIAMS.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

C. B. LANYON, M.D. (LOND.)

Sanitary Inspector:

A. HEY, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

G. BARNARD.

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

MISS C. TRUSCOTT, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS M. LAKEMAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Pupil Sanitary Inspectors:

P. C. DEEBLE.

R. JONES.

BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year Ending 31st December, 1945.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Falmouth.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of my Department for the year 1945.

I should like to express my thanks to the Sanitary Inspector and the Staff of his Department for their assistance during the past year.

In 1945, there was an increase of three in the number of births.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 16.5, which I am glad to report is a record, the lowest figure previously recorded was 33.65 in the year 1932.

Immunisation of school children between the ages of 1 to 15 has continued, and up to the end of 1945 91 per cent. had been immunised.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)		1,893
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1945, for statistics	..	15,130
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1931	..	2,916
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1945) according to Rate Books		4,000 (approx.)
Rateable Value, 1945		£161,647
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	£726 11 10.8
		(Subject to audit)

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	Male	Female
<i>Live Births</i> ..	Legitimate	254	131	123
	.. Illegitimate	49	23	26
		—	—	—
		303	154	149

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:
20.03. England and Wales: 16.1.

		Total	Male	Female
<i>Still Births</i> ..	Legitimate	10	6	4
	.. Illegitimate	1	—	1
		—	—	—
		11	6	5

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—35.03.

		Total	Male	Female
<i>Deaths</i>		213	93	120

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:
14.08. England and Wales: 11.4.

Deaths from puerperal causes:—

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal causes	2	6.37
Total	2	6.37
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:—		
Legitimate, 3; Illegitimate, 2; total, 5.		
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births		16.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		11.81
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		40.82
England and Wales (Deaths under one year of age)		46
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		35
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		—

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Pathological investigations are carried out by Dr. Hocking of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia when considered necessary.

When home conditions are unsatisfactory, and in cases of abnormality, arrangements have been made with the Cornwall County Council to admit cases to maternity beds maintained by that Council.

CHILD WELFARE.

Sessions are held on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Child Welfare Centre, from 2 to 4 p.m., for the weighing of babies and advice to mothers. The Medical Officer of Health interviews all cases on Tuesdays from 3 to 4 p.m.

All infants under five are visited by the Health Visitor and advice, and, where necessary, treatment given in accordance with Circular 2831.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Sessions are arranged by the County Authority.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No fever of note has been prevalent.

The Council has adopted the plan of immunising the child population against diphtheria between the ages of 1 and 15.

So far since the scheme has been adopted in November, 1940, 3,205 children have been completely immunised out of an estimated child population for the age period 1—15 of 3,500.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
35	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
45	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	4	4	1	—	2	4	1	1

I am, Your obedient Servant,

C. B. LANYON,

Medical Officer of Health.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN 1945.

DISEASE	No. of Cases Notified	AGE AT NOTIFICATION										Over 65	No. of Cases Admitted to Hospital	
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45			45-65
Small Pox...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	23	1	1	2	3	1	8	3	1	...	...	3	...	12
Diphtheria	4	..	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	8	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	4	1	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	121	12	3	1	1	1	...	...
Measles	269	13	23	31	21	42	121	12	3	1	1	1	...	...
Whooping Cough	14	2	3	1	4	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Borough Sanitary Inspector

for the Year Ending December, 1945.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Falmouth.*

29th July, 1946.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the following brief report of my Department during 1945.

The usual routine inspections were maintained to the best of my ability; special attention was devoted to the Government Evacuation Scheme, the Salvage Campaign, Rodent Destruction and Milk Supply.

361 samples of milk were taken on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture in connection with the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme. Any necessary advisory work in connection with unsatisfactory samples was carried out by your Inspector, but unfortunately as most of the Milk is produced outside the Borough boundary, it was impossible for me to "follow up" on all the bad samples.

The Salvage yield declined on the previous year, the chief difference being a loss of 54 tons of Waste Paper, 2 tons of Bones and 3 tons of Textiles, the only improvement being that of Food Waste, which showed an increase of 22 tons.

In connection with Rodent Infestation, the whole of the Sewerage Systems were dealt with, along with a large number of premises.

For the seventh year in succession, I carried out the numerous duties entailed in Billeting as Chief Billeting Officer.

Much time has also been given to the granting of "Certificates of Essentiality," and Licenses in connection with the Control of Civil Buildings.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The Water Engineer reports that the Water Supply to the Statutory Area has proved satisfactory, both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of the Treated Waters are made quarterly and Bacteriological examination of the Treated Water monthly. The results declare a "Wholesome supply of water suitable for a Public Supply."

By treatment with Lime the pH value of the water is maintained at 9.5 to assure freedom from plumbo-solvent action. The maintenance of this value is confirmed by Chemical Analysis. Continuous Coagulation, Filtration and Chlorination is maintained. The proportion of dwelling houses and of the population supplied from public water mains direct to the house is 90 per cent., and by means of stand pipes 1 per cent., exclusive of Rural and /or Areas.

My Department submitted eleven samples from private supplies for Bacteriological and Chemical examination. Five were reported as unsatisfactory, and in cases of doubt the consumers were advised to boil.

The extension of the water main to the Golden Bank Area was considered and I would have been glad to have been able to report that this area was now connected to the Town Supply.

SEWERAGE.

There have been no major alterations or extensions during the year.

DRAINAGE.

During the year six new drains were tested, first by means of Water Test, then by Smoke Test, and all finally approved.

Four old drains were examined and found defective, these were exposed and relaid to my satisfaction.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Action was taken to check pollution as found necessary.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

With the exception of a very small number of Pail Closets in outside areas all are on the Water carriage and connected to the Council's sewers.

We have however 149 premises connected to Cesspits where no sewers are available, these being regularly emptied by an approved type of Cesspool Emptier.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are 21 Public Conveniences in the Borough, which are cleaned daily, four of these have a Caretaker for 9 hours every day; two are open in the season only. Owing to the large amount of damage done to these premises where there is no attendant it has been necessary to remove the coin boxes.

There seems to be a feeling amongst some people that a Public Convenience is only provided for them to damage.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The inspection of Shops and Offices as regards their sanitary accommodation was continued during the year, and 44 inspections were made in connection with hours of closing and a number of contraventions were dealt with.

YOUNG PERSONS ACT.

41 Complaints were received, all of which were investigated and in 35 cases it was found that the employers were working the Young Persons more hours than was allowed under the Act. After interviews with Employers and in some cases Employees I am happy to report that a re-adjustment of the working hours was agreed upon and Legal Proceedings were not necessary.

CAMPING SITES.

There are no Licensed Camping Sites in the Borough.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

During the year five cases of Scabies were dealt with.

Cases of infestation of houses by bed bugs were few in number.

Disinfestation for bed bugs was carried out by the use of a heavy concentration of SO₂ together with spraying by an insecticide, such as Zaldecide or Vermicine.

RODENT CONTROL.

In connection with the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943, 123 cases were dealt with.

Of these four were of the reservoir type, sixteen were major infestations and 103 were minor in character.

The baits used for prebaiting were 5 cwts. of Sausage Rusk, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. Bread Mash, and for poisoning—Arsenic and Zinc Phosphide were the chief agents.

Based on the actual "takes of poison," it is estimated that 3,527 rats were killed.

The work done during the year included the treatment of the Council's Sewers, which resulted in an estimated kill of 2,211, included in the above total.

HOUSING.

Housing work was chiefly restricted to dealing with maintenance of property in as reasonable a condition as possible in view of the shortage of materials and labour. It is one thing to serve a notice, but quite another to secure compliance, and instead of an improvement the outlook is worse, personally I do not see much headway in re-housing the homeless by the erection of new houses, if the present houses are allowed to go into a state of decay.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Whilst dairy farming is an important industry in the County, there are only 145 cows housed in the 17 farms in the Borough.

There is one Licensed producer and retailer of Accredited Milk, 14 Licensed Producers, and 2 Licensed Retailers.

30 Cowshed inspections were made during the year, and 361 samples of milk were obtained for examination by the Resazurin Test in connection with the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme. Under this scheme your Authority acts as an agent on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and carries out any necessary advisory work consequent upon adverse reports on samples.

No samples have been taken during the war years for the examination as to the presence of Tubercular Bacilli.

Distribution of milk was carried out by 26 purveyors. There being one distributor of pasteurised milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

All slaughtering is done outside the Borough, but 70 visits were made to Meat and other food shops, and bake-houses, and small quantities of meat and other foodstuffs condemned, the total weight of foodstuffs condemned during the year was 3 tons 17 cwts.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

1ST. APRIL, 1945—31ST. MARCH, 1946.

A weekly collection of Salvage was maintained along with a weekly collection of Refuse. Refuse is disposed of by means of incineration at the Electricity Works.

As will be seen by the following table, the total tonnage of paper collected, declined by 54 tons.

As soon as the cessation of hostilities was announced there was a decrease in salvage and despite numerous appeals, publicity, and special Salvage Drives, it seems that the public are not as "Salvage Minded" as they were during the War years.

This is a great pity as the acute shortage of raw materials and the constant need of all our shipping for other purposes make it imperative that all Paper, Textiles, Bones and Kitchen Waste, once described as Waste Material must be saved.

The Building Industry is crying out for more Wall Board and this could easily be met if all Waste Paper and Cardboard were saved; then there is the question of the Glue supply to the Building Trade, which would be considerably eased, if all our Bones were salvaged instead of putting them in the dustbin or burning them; the pig population will take every scrap of Kitchen Waste.

				1945	1944
Waste Paper	..	..	..	115 tons	169 tons
Ferrous Metals	..	..	..	41 "	— "
Textiles	..	..	..	3 "	6 "
Rubber	..	..	..	— "	3 "
Bottles and Jars	..	..	..	1 "	— "
Kitchen Waste	..	..	..	83 "	61 "
Bones	..	..	..	2 "	4 "
Total Tonnage	..	..	..	245 "	243 "
Value	..	..	..	£1,162	£1,143

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Your Inspector continued to act as Honorary District Adviser to the Salvage and Recovery Department (L.A.), of the Ministry of Supply for District 25, which includes all Boroughs, Urban and Rural Districts of Cornwall.

The Staff of the Cleansing Department consists of 11 males whole-time, and 4 males part-time.

The equipment consists of two mechanical refuse collection vehicles, one 350 gallon capacity Cesspool Emptier, and one lorry part-time from the Highways Department.

One of the Refuse Vehicles has been on the road since 1934, another since 1939, and the Cesspool Emptier since 1935.

Taking all our services into consideration:—

The total Cost of Collection is	..	£3,501	7	2
<i>Receipts—</i>				
Sale of Salvaged Materials		£1,162	1	3
Leaving a net Cost of Collection of	..	£2,339	5	11
Cost of Disposal, Burning of Refuse	..	£155	19	10
(as compared with £251 14s. 7d. in 1939).				

<i>Receipts—</i>				
For Collection of Refuse	£50	0	0	
Leaving the net Cost of Burning	..	£105	19	10
(as compared with £201 14s. 7d. in 1939)				
Cost of Removing Clinker from Destructor		£340	9	3
Receipts		£100	0	0
Leaving net Cost of Removing Clinker		£240	9	3

EMPTYING OF CESSPOOLS.

The Total Cost of these Services amounts to	£720	4	8
Receipts for hire of Cesspool Emptier	£2	5	0
Leaving a net cost of		£717	19 8

In concluding this report, I desire to express my sincere appreciation of the support received during the year from the Sanitary and other Committees, my best thanks to the staff, one and all, for their loyalty, zeal and devotion, and for the able and energetic manner in which they have at all times, discharged their many and onerous duties, often under very trying conditions.

I am your obedient Servant,
A. HEY, Sanitary Inspector.

